

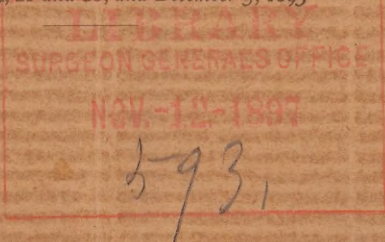
White (G. J.)

THE STUDY OF DERMATOLOGY IN EUROPE

BY

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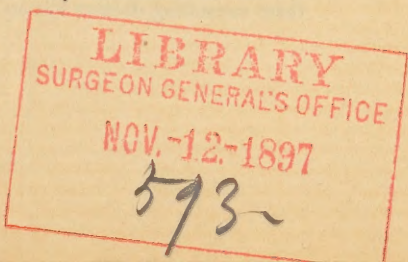
THE STUDY OF DERMATOLOGY IN EUROPE.

BOSTON, October, 1895.

MR. EDITOR:—I have thought that a sketch of my experience in the study of dermatology in the principal medical schools of Europe during the past two years might be of interest and advantage to other students.

It was by my father's advice that I went first to Paris, and so I will speak of my life there first.

The St. Louis Hospital, where instruction in skin diseases is chiefly given, is a very large, very old, and very interesting building. It was erected in 1610 as an asylum and means of isolation for the poor people stricken with the "plague," which was then raging so fiercely in Paris. There are three departments connected with this ancient edifice—one for dermatology, one for surgery, and one for obstetrics. For the diseases of the skin there are six hundred beds, a large new building for the out-patient service, a superb museum, an unsurpassed library, a post-mortem room, various laboratories, a large bathing establishment, and a room devoted to the uses of the Parisian Dermatological Society. These various divisions were under the control of six physicians—Messieurs Hallopeau, Quinquaud (who died during the winter), Tenneson, Du Castel, Thibierge (who was substituting for Monsieur Besnier), and Professor Fournier. I must digress here a moment to express a deep regret that so many of the older school were absent either through death or indisposition. I refer to Hardy and Vidal, who had died during the previous three years, and to Besnier, who felt himself forced to relinquish his active service through enfeebled health. The loss of the privilege of seeing and hearing these Nestors of modern French dermatology was a keen one to me, but certainly no man should complain of the pupils of these older masters who are now in daily attendance at the St. Louis.



But to continue. Each of the six physicians has about one hundred beds in his wards, a laboratory for pathological, bacteriological and chemical research, and six or eight assistants under the charge of the *chef de clinique*, who is usually an older man and one whose appointment covers a period of eight years. There is only one service officially connected with the Faculté de Médecine de Paris, and this is under the leadership of Professor Fournier, who well deserves the distinction. Under Professor Fournier there is a still larger corps of assistants in charge of M. Louis Wickham, and, in addition, two comparatively young men who served as pathologist and bacteriologist respectively, men whose investigations have already brought their names into the highest prominence in the dermatology of to-day—I refer to Darier and Sabouraud. These three men—Wickham, Darier and Sabouraud—form a trio of assistants of whom any professor might well be proud. But now, unfortunately, Darier has lost this position through his appointment as *Médecin des Hôpitaux*; Wickham must go in two years; and Sabouraud cannot remain forever. Luckily, Darier has now, in 1895, a temporary position in replacing M. Besnier, but through the unfortunate system of Parisian hospitals he must soon be lost, perhaps forever, to the St. Louis, in order to fill some vacant post in any Parisian medical institution—whether it be one devoted to general work, to the insane, to the blind, or what not.

The best programme of work to be pursued at the St. Louis is hard to determine on account of the embarrassment of riches. Every day from nine until half-past eleven or twelve there is the out-patient department, which is absolutely unsurpassed in Europe in the richness of the quality and the quantity of the material. The number of patients presenting themselves daily varies from 250 to 400; among them are many rare diseases or many uncommon phases of the more usual ones. The celerity with which this vast throng of patients is seen is wonderful, but it is all explained by the admirable system and discipline maintained by the physicians and nurses. The chief allows his first and second assistants to prescribe for the patients, and each of these consulting doctors has an assistant at his elbow who

writes the prescription and offers all explanations. The children are seen first, then the women, and finally the men — each patient coming before the physician with his affected area of skin bared so that all may see. The men all appear stripped to the waist. In these several ways, 200 to 400 people can be seen thoroughly enough between nine and twelve o'clock, and those whose cases need further study are assigned definite days and hours to reappear in the wards.

The out-patient department is presided over by one of the six physicians — each day being devoted to one man, who demonstrates to the small group of interested ones about him the noteworthy cases. Some of the men are exceedingly good talkers, and one learns much of the latest research, and is also impressed with the fact that the forefathers of the modern school were extraordinarily good observers and exceedingly advanced in their specialty. Another great advantage in these impromptu talks is that one hears the names and ideas of all foreigners quoted and respected, no matter what his country, and I firmly believe that, as a rule, the Parisian dermatologists honor foreign observers and are less self-satisfied than most of their European colleagues.

From the out-patients each physician chooses the new patients who are to fill his wards. From such a vast source to draw upon one can imagine what interesting and what severe cases occupy the beds of the St. Louis Hospital — of which I shall speak in a moment. From the out-patient consultation there are many who are requested to come again on a certain day in the week when their wants are administered to at greater length. The syphilis patients are assigned one day, the trichophytic adults and children another, those with lupus another, and those of doubtful or very difficult diagnosis another. Thus it is that there is so much to see on any given day in the week, when opportunity is offered the stranger to see more intimately the minutiae of disease and treatment than is possible in the hurry of the out-patient consultation.

But let me explain. The syphilis patients are interrogated most carefully as to their family and personal history, and after the many interesting questions have been asked

and answered their treatment is explained. With the trichophytic patients there is more to be done. From the new ones microscopic examinations of hairs from the beard or scalp are made, culture media are inoculated, and questions asked. With the old patients, epilations are begun or continued and the subsequent medicinal cures pursued. The sufferers from lupus are admitted in turn and the treatment by the scarifying knife or electric cautery administered, and the patients are sent back to their beds in the wards or else to their occupations with varying medicated plasters covering their superficial wounds. Many of the cases of lupus erythematosus and *nævi* are treated in the same way.

Of the interest and advantage of frequent visits to the wards one cannot say too much. Every morning about nine o'clock the daily visit of the physician-in-chief is made, and the visitor feels more than amply repaid for what he has seen of the patients and heard from the physician, who discusses the disease and its progress with his assistants. I shall never forget my first visit in Professor Fournier's wards under the guidance of M. Wickham. It seemed as if I were in a museum, for every bed contained some dermatological curiosity. Syphilis in all phases of severity and unusual appearance, keratosis follicularis, several cases of dermatitis multiformis, two of dermatitis exfoliativa universalis, most curiously modified cases of psoriasis and tinea trichophytina, together with the usual severe types of carcinoma, lupus, lupus erythematosus, eczema, et cetera. These are the cases which occur to my mind after a lapse of eighteen months. During the winter almost all the rarer skin diseases found their way into the six hundred beds of the hospital, but to mention them all would be to run through the index of a modern book on dermatology, and so I must content myself with a few of the more unusual examples which now remain especially impressed upon my mind: Mycosis fungoides, "glossite exfoliatrice marginé," leprosy, lymphoderma, acne necrotica, keratosis palmaris et plantaris from continued ingestion of arsenic, "bouton de Biskra," elephantiasis, "lichenification" in its varied aspects, ichthyosis, lichen scrofulosorum, Paget's disease, melanoderma lenticularis progressiva, molluscum

contagiosum, morphea, pityriasis maculata et circinata, prurigo, psoriasis with subsequent loss of all nails, verruca plana, and "Vagabond's Disease."

As to the lectures of which a stranger can avail himself while at the St. Louis I must say a word. In addition to the extemporaneous talks by the bedside and over the out-patients, almost every one of the six physicians gives a course of two months' duration some time during the year; and lastly, there are the extremely interesting and instructive Tuesday clinical and Friday didactic lectures of Professor Fournier, whose immense experience in syphilis is concentrated into words and delivered to his hearers in the most beautiful, classic French. I have never listened to a more finished speaker, and no one could have spent an hour with him without carrying away some fact indelibly imprinted on one's mind.

The meetings of the Parisian Dermatological Society are held every month in the Salle des Conférences — a room especially devoted to the society in the same building as the library, museum and out-patient department. The walls are covered with interesting prints of the St. Louis Hospital in olden times and with photographs of the men who have added so much to the glory of French dermatology, while busts of the world's greatest dermatologists add still further interest to the lover of the history of this branch of medicine. The meetings are attended by all Parisian physicians interested in the skin, and are presided over by M. Besnier. Cases are presented and papers read, but to the stranger what gives so fair a promise is marred by the continuous noise of the men discussing among themselves a previous doubtful case. Thus no sound of the reader's voice can be heard by those in the back part of the room. With such men present and with such cases before one, it is a great pity that such an opportunity should remain so unproductive and unsatisfactory.

And lastly, the student can turn his leisure moments — if there can be such at the St. Louis — to the wonderful museum of Baretta models. There is no other such place in the world. The superb life-like models now number over 1,900, in addition to the private collection of Profes-

sor Fournier, and what the student has failed to see in the other departments of the hospital can surely be found here as true to nature and almost as instructive as the disease in real life. A most complete catalogue by M. Feulard exists, while all the most interesting models have been subjects of monographs by their original observers. Thus can one spend hours and hours reading dermatology with the case before his eyes.

Thus far in this little description of the advantages of Parisian study I have devoted myself to morning work, but now when I come to the consideration of how the student is to occupy his afternoons, I am grieved to say that at last I must speak disparagingly of Paris from a dermatological point. Of course, a man should become acquainted with the histology and pathology and bacteriology of the skin and not confine himself in these later days to the clinical side alone. And here is where Paris is distressingly inadequate as a field of study to the stranger. In the winter of 1893 and 1894 no man in Paris gave any lectures upon the microscopy of the skin, and few, if any, spoke except in the most cursory manner of this important subdivision of dermatology. Now, in 1895, Darier is delivering an excellent course of lectures, but naturally lectures are only the starting-point, and one must work for himself with the microscope; but this opportunity under an instructor is still withheld to the stranger.

During my winter in Paris I had the privilege of working under Darier in Mallasez's laboratory at the Collège de France, and the histology of the skin was demonstrated to me by him in his clear, distinct and systematic manner.

In January, February and March, by good luck I was fortunate enough to be enrolled as a member of the bacteriological course under M. Roux at the Pasteur Institute. I can imagine no more thoroughly scientific course in any branch of learning than this, as given by the modest man who has now become so deservedly world-renowned through his wonderful success in the treatment of croup and diphtheria. Every day at half-past one the small class assembles and listens for an hour or more to the clear, methodical, all-comprehensive words of M. Roux. Very often

other men, as Metchnikoff, speak upon subjects of which they have made particular study and research. The lectures are descriptive and illustrative of the technique, all the best practical methods are explained and demonstrated for the study of the germ of each disease, and the life history of the different bacteria with their future results in the animal body is beautifully told. The richness of the apparatus is wonderful. After the lecture each student repeats at his own desk what he has seen demonstrated by the lecturer, and an able corps of assistants is on hand to help him in the intricacies of modern bacteriology. One great advantage in the Pasteur course is its thoroughness. The student must do everything for himself. He must prepare his own culture media and later inoculate them; he must inoculate animals and perform autopsies; he must prepare his material and stain and mount his slides. Of course, all necessary help and advice are given, but the aim of the Roux system is to make the student do things for himself and to do them thoroughly and scientifically.

This course must naturally be elementary, owing to its brevity, but every disease is lectured upon with the utmost thoroughness and nothing is treated cursorily or carelessly. The special lectures on hydrophobia and diphtheria were pre-eminently remarkable in this perfect course for novices in bacteriology.

Such was my work in Paris in the winter of 1893-94, and I shall always remember it with the greatest pleasure and delight; and now, after my travels elsewhere in Europe, I look back upon the St. Louis and the Pasteur Institute as the places of all others where one can find at their very best modern dermatology and modern bacteriology.

LONDON.

London is different from Paris in many ways. Paris is the type of centralization in dermatology as in all other branches of science and arts. In Paris the student goes to one building and finds all; in London he must go to many, which lie scattered over the city from Blackfriars to Paddington on the east and west, and from St. Pancras to

Westminster on the north and south — an area of no inconsiderable extent. But when once the stranger has reached his destination, he is well rewarded for his trouble. The student does not see many rare cases, but rather those which are useful and which he is liable to see in every-day practice in America. The student is not so likely to hear new theories advanced as in Paris, but he is sure to see some new drug or compound which is being tried to its utmost; in fact, London is a great city for hobbies in the way of therapy, a city where the very new and the very old are seen hand-in-hand. This is not true of all the men, for the younger ones show the effect of their Parisian study. The clinics to be visited while in London are to be seen in the following table which Dr. Colcott Fox very kindly drew up for me :

Day.	Hour.	Doctor.	Hospital.
Monday . .	9.45 A. M.	Mr. Morris.	St. Mary's.
Tuesday . .	1 P. M. 2 P. M.	Perry. Crocker.	Guy's. University.
Wednesday .	1.30 P. M.	Fox.	Westminster.
Thursday .	9.00 9.30 9.45 afternoon	Mackenzie. Pringle. Mr. Morris. Mr. Hutchinson.	London Hosp. for Skin. Middlesex. St. Mary's. At his clinical museum.
Friday . . .	..		
Saturday . .	9.30 A. M.	Crocker.	University.

And also Dr. Payne at St. John's Hospital, Stamford Street, Blackfriars.

There are so many clinics that I cannot in this paper speak of them in detail, but will give my impressions only. Mr. Morris has an excellent clinic at St. Mary's and is a good teacher. He is a modern man and well known in English dermatology.

Dr. Crocker's clinic is very good also, and among his many, many cases of eczema, varicose ulcers and ringworm

of the scalp he has some exceedingly rare and interesting patients — in truth, it has been with him that I have seen my only cases of urticaria pigmentosa and universal scleroderma and my very best examples of morphea. Dr. Crocker is also one of England's foremost dermatologists and is an exceedingly good teacher, though a little loathe to accept new ideas and theories. He is always surrounded by students, whom he instructs by assigning them cases which they try to diagnose and prescribe for. Later, Dr. Crocker speaks very fully over the case, going into all its aspects. For these reasons it is very advantageous for the young dermatologist to attend these clinical talks, for he will see useful cases and hear the method of diagnosis explained in a careful and simple manner. For the more advanced student the impromptu talks are at times, perhaps, a trifle elementary, but then one can never hear medical principles discussed too often or too fully. On Saturday mornings Dr. Crocker holds a short lecture in the amphitheatre subsequent to his clinical work.

Dr. Fox is a wide-awake man and an interesting talker. Unfortunately he holds but one clinic a week. His cases are typical of London dermatology — a great many useful examples of disease, which are enlivened several times during the afternoon by cases rarer to London clinics. Dr. Fox is extremely pleasant and cordial to the stranger, and will do all in his power to help and advise him.

Dr. Mackenzie's clinic is the largest in London, and one which should not be omitted.

At Middlesex Hospital Dr. Pringle has a bi-weekly clinic. He is the best installed of any of the London men, for his audience- and dressing-rooms are well lighted and very neat and fresh. Of course a few visits are not a fair criterion upon which to base one's ideas, but to my mind Dr. Pringle's patients seemed of a more interesting class from a dermatological point of view. He seemed to me to be almost a Frenchman in his views on dermatology, and my mornings with him were quite a pleasant reminiscence of my cherished "St. Louis." Dr. Pringle received his training in Paris not a long time ago, and is thoroughly imbued with its clinical and therapeutical teachings, past and present.

I regret exceedingly that I was never able to attend any of the Thursday afternoon meetings at Mr. Hutchinson's museum. He is perhaps one of the most interesting and famous dermatologists and syphilographers living, and fortunately I was able to hear him speak at several of the dermatological meetings held in London in June, 1894.

I must also express regret for never having attended the clinics of Dr. Perry at Guy's and Dr. Payne at St. John's.

As will be seen from the description of my London work, there is very little opportunity of studying disease in house-patients. As with us in Boston, the number of beds available for skin diseases is distressingly small, and so English dermatology must suffer from the impossibility of proper study of the etiology, progress and treatment of dermatological processes. London is also weak in the facilities for microscopical work, being hampered by the same difficulties attending biopsies and necropsies which interfere with the study of pathology with us in America.

To my mind London is valuable, dermatologically speaking, in three ways: for the character of the teaching, for making one's self familiar with the commoner diseases and their treatment, and for becoming acquainted with the English methods and their exponents.

While in London I was fortunate enough to be present at the initial meetings of the new Dermatological Society of the United Kingdom, and of the London Dermatological Society. The former was, of course, extremely interesting through the gathering of so many well-known dermatologists from all parts of the British Isles, and from the papers read and from the patients presented. In June, 1894, a great wave of enthusiasm for thyroid extract as a panacea for all dermatoses and for psoriasis in particular had taken London completely by storm. It gave one a curious feeling to see so great a furore created by a medicament, which, in the words of its greatest advocates, was dangerous and not at all a sure means of cure. Nevertheless, almost all the men present were trying it in their own clinics, and practically all were seeing their patients return one after another for advice on account of a strange feeling of weakness, anorexia, headache, palpitation of the heart and general lowering of the body tone. For my part, the whole

movement seemed like an unsubstantial fanaticism. Certainly the cures which could be ascribed unreservedly to the extract of the thyroid gland were exceedingly few, and even in these isolated instances the patients had usually undergone the usual depression following the ingestion of the drug.

The gatherings of the London Society are very informal affairs and have a social side to them. Very interesting cases are shown, and the patients are continually surrounded by a fresh group — listeners to the remarks of the original observers. The physicians do not sit down and have the cases demonstrated in turn, but go about in the large room and speak to their colleagues, who are sure to have something interesting to show them. In other parts of the room you will notice, perhaps, several groups enjoying their cup of tea and their bread or savory. The meetings are made very pleasant in this way, although perhaps not so systematic as they might be.

NORWAY.

In July my father joined me, and we sailed to Christiania, where we were most hospitably entertained by Professor César Boeck. We spent the morning in his hospital. There are, perhaps, one hundred beds devoted to the skin, and we saw many interesting cases, among which were a goodly percentage of syphilis and a proportionately large number of favus. Professor Boeck made to us the remarkable statement that mercury was never administered to his luetic patients — they received iron as their principal treatment. This method had been tried for several years, and no evils had followed. While in Professor Boeck's wards we saw an incipient case of leprosy. A young man, vigorous and sound-looking, bore over his lumbar region a pinkish-brown area the size of a double palm. This was his only visible symptom, and from the absolutely peculiar shade of this pigmentation Professor Boeck told us that the diagnosis was practically positive.

The out-patients are received in a room the walls of which are hung with the wonderful colored drawings of Danielsen, which are the truest to nature I have ever seen.

They are the originals from which the atlas of Boeck and Danielsen was made, and are justly celebrated and well warrant the pride with which the present Professor Boeck showed them to us. Adjoining this room is the private room of Professor Boeck, which contains a good library and an excellent collection of dermatological drawings and photographs. I regret very much that our time in Christiania was so brief, for a student could hardly find a better or kindlier master to work under than Professor Boeck. He is thoroughly wide-awake to what is going on in the dermatological world, and is himself full of original ideas, and his deep researches with the microscope are well known.

From Christiania we travelled northward to Trondjhem, where we visited the leper establishment under the guidance and supervision of Dr. Sand. What a gloomy, disheartening place it was, with its 250 victims! But Dr. Sand gives his whole life up to them, and is illustrating all phases of the disease with original photographs, paintings and models.

The patients themselves were extremely interesting, and were of all ages from young children to old men and women, some of whom have lived for thirty years with this scourge upon them. The longevity of the patients was, I think, the most remarkable point I learned during our visit. The large number of cases made a lasting impression of the disease upon my mind. The wasting of the ulnar side of the arm, the nodes upon the ulnar nerve, the anesthesia, the tuberosities on the face, the deformities of the fingers and toes, the atrophies and subsequent disappearance of the digits of the hands and feet, the corneal alterations and resulting blindness, the emaciation, the intercurrent diseases, the utter misery, — all made upon me an indelible picture of the anesthetic and tubercular types of this horrible disease. The former division was far outnumbered by the latter; and in Norway the two types become mixed if the patient lives long enough, and so it was that we saw so few pure examples of the anesthetic variety.

The patients themselves seemed very cheerful and contented. Seclusion in a lazaretto is not compulsory in Norway, and the lepers are allowed to leave even after en-

trance ; but, as a rule, most of these sufferers in Scandinavia make their homes in these hopeless retreats. Those who are physically able labor in the workroom at shoe-making and carpentering if they are men, and if women at spinning, carding wool and knitting. It was a strange and unpleasant sight, this wretched workroom, where the toilers were deformed or disfigured, all.

If one wanted to study leprosy in all its phases, surely no better place could be found than at the hospital in Trondjhem, but it would be a gloomy and dismal home, and we surely felt thankful as we once more drove over the glorious country on our way back to the city. Surely there could be no greater contrast in the world than the dark, forlorn lazaretto and the superb scenery of mountain and sea all about it.

BONN.

In mid-September I resumed my work ; and as the microscope had been, through necessity, neglected during my first winter's study, I decided to do my utmost to cultivate this side of my education in the new winter opening before me. For this reason I visited Bonn, and found the place awaiting me which Professor Doutrelepont had promised my father. It was a great favor on my new master's part to allow me a desk in his own laboratory, and I greatly appreciated my position.

There are many advantages in Bonn. In the laboratory there are places for the "privat-docent" and the first and second assistants of Professor Doutrelepont. The one vacant space was allotted to me. A small but well-equipped library adjoins, where one finds many books of reference and contemporaneous dermatological magazines. The laboratory itself has a wonderfully good collection of pathological skin, which, in many instances has been carried — in regard to technique — to the stage of staining and mounting. These sections and the re-agents Professor Doutrelepont showed me, and said with characteristic kindness that all were mine to make the most of. For four weeks I worked in these rooms from morning until late afternoon, preparing a collection of slides which have since been of great value to me.

Professor Doutrelepont is exceedingly well installed in the large hospital of Bonn. He has many wards at his disposal and a large out-patient department. Every day the visit is made among the house patients, and subsequently the so-called polyclinic is held. I saw some very good cases while at Bonn, although I gave but little time to clinical work; and I am sure that during the term of the university a student could pass a most profitable three months in this charming town. Such a combination of clinical and pathological advantages as Bonn offers I found in only three other European cities. I was extremely sorry to leave Professor Doutrelepont's laboratory, but Vienna lay before me, and so I was forced to go.

VIENNA.

About the middle of October I arrived in Vienna, the city of all Europe to which I had looked forward with the greatest eagerness, but which in the end proved to be the bitterest disappointment.

The wards of the skin department contain many very interesting cases; in fact, no hospital in Europe in my knowledge, save Paris, can offer so much material for study. But it is not the material which is at fault in Vienna, it is the instruction. Kaposi, to my mind, occupies a more important position than any dermatologist in the world. It is to him that by far the greatest number of foreigners flock for instruction, and to him is granted the privilege of teaching this cosmopolitan audience the supreme results of the world's past and present investigations with the priceless aid of the Vienna patients and the Vienna collection of dermatological paintings, but unfortunately this valuable trust is not satisfactorily fulfilled. Kaposi's teachings represent the dermatology of his greatest mental activity, that is, the dermatology of a previous decade, and in his lectures, *his* work is the principal, in fact, the only theme, for he recognizes the labors of no other dermatologist living or dead, save of Hebra. To all fair-minded men modern dermatology is the product of the labor of all countries, and modern lectures should be a *résumé* of these combined studies; but Kaposi's lectures

are a repetition of Kaposi's published works, and little attention is given to the immense strides which the study of dermatology has made during the last ten years — a progress due almost wholly to men who do not live in Vienna. For these reasons Vienna proved a great disappointment to me.

The cause for this state of affairs is the absence of competition. There is only one purely dermatological clinic of any size in Vienna; there is only one head to this department — a head which has been allowed its own rein, unchecked for years, and now remains the autocrat of Vienna dermatology. It is a great pity that such is the case. The many dermatologists of Paris and of every other large city are a help to each other — a healthy stimulus for work and a rich source of knowledge in cases of doubt.

I have spoken perhaps a little plainly in my judgment of Vienna, but it was with the fixed purpose of helping my successors who go abroad with the intention of studying the diseases of the skin. For the most part, Americans go to Europe, or rather to Vienna, for this purpose, and there they remain, apparently believing that there is no other city of any consequence for the pursuance of their studies. If I show in this paper that such is not the case, and that several cities should share the precious time previously allotted blindly to Vienna, then I shall feel that I have not written in vain. With these words of warning as a peroration, let me now describe the bright side of my winter in Vienna. There are certain great advantages to be enjoyed there, and if it were not for the peculiarities (above referred to) of the master, Vienna would be an excellent, if not the best, school for the first months of study abroad.

The lectures of Kaposi are given every morning, save Saturday and Sunday, at eight o'clock. Perhaps I have been too severe, and should say that the lectures are almost unrivalled except for one who wants to go deeply and thoroughly into modern dermatology, and it is for the general student, after all, perhaps, that they are intended. The lectures are very broad in their scope and comprise talks upon the patients presented, upon the history, pa-

thology, clinical features, therapy and prognosis of the disease under discussion. Many colored plates and microscopical drawings are passed about the room, and Kaposi himself draws upon the board the principal pathological features of his subject. On some diseases Kaposi spoke at great length and minuteness; but as the end of the semester approached many were touched upon only slightly, and others were hardly mentioned. This fault was due to the great number of patients which were presented from day to day. It would be the lecturer's intention to speak of a certain disease on the morrow. The following day would come, and with it an interesting new patient whose case would occupy perhaps a large portion of the hour, and then the promised lecture was deferred or else forgotten. A perfect series of lectures is certainly always difficult to deliver, but it seemed to me that Kaposi was trying to accomplish too much in the time allotted to him.

One great drawback in Vienna is the length of the vacations and the frequency of the fête-days. Three weeks at Christmas and six weeks in spring, with a church holiday every third week, cut into the precious working time and leave the lecturer and the foreign student perplexed as to how to compensate for the loss of time which may never come again. The vacations in Vienna are an especially heavy deprivation to the foreigner, for with their advent Kaposi disappears from the lecture-room, the out-patient department, and, with a few exceptions, from the wards, and all is left in charge of the first assistant, whom Americans and English do not follow.

Professor Neumann's lectures are wholly clinical, and pertain chiefly to gonorrhea and syphilis, but very often an exceedingly interesting dermatological case creeps in. It was surprising to me how monotonous the cases were, for with one hundred beds and an out-patient department to choose from, Neumann devoted weeks and months even to presenting case after case of gonorrhea and of soft and hard chancres, and neglected almost entirely the later forms of syphilis. As might be supposed, such a selection of subjects was not especially edifying or instructive, and was rendered all the more unattractive by the brutally coarse and disgusting treatment which the patients received.

After Christmas I found that I was not gaining much knowledge of syphilis from Neumann's lectures, but simply seeing drop after drop of gonococci, and so I decided to go to the out-patient department of Kaposi, which is under the charge of his first assistant. Here, again, I was disappointed. By the subjoined list one can well see what the out-patient department provides. This is a list which I made during the winter of the cases presenting themselves from Monday to Saturday inclusive. By its side I will place a list of the patients whom I saw in *one day* in Paris, and while the Vienna one means all the patients who appeared during the six days, the Paris one signifies only those men, women and children who came before one of the three physicians holding the clinic on that particular Saturday. Both lists were made quite hap-hazard, and are not selected ones in any way.

VIENNA.

One week in January.

Acne	8
Acne rosacea	5
Alopecia areata	2
Combustio	1
Dermatitis	4
Dysidrosis	1
Eczema	23
Epithelioma	2
Erythema multiforme	1
Erythema nodosum	1
Favus	1
Herpes progenitalis	2
Herpes zoster	3
Impetigo	3
Ichthyosis	1
Lupus vulgaris	8
Pediculi capitis	2
Pediculi vestimentorum	1
Pernio	3
Prurigo	2
Pruritus senilis	1
Psoriasis	5
Scabies	33
Syphilis	10
Sycosis	1
Seborrhea	2
Ulcera cruris	2
Urticaria	7
Verruca	3

PARIS.

One day in June.

Alopecia areata	4	
Balanitis	3	
Dermatitis (professional)	8	
Dermatitis (medicamentosa)	2	
Dysidrosis	1	
Eczema	8	
Eczema of nails	1	
Eczema of the lip	2	
Eczema seborrhoicum	2	
Epithelioma	1	
Erythema multiforme	4	
Erythema bullosum	1	
Herpes zoster gangrenosus	1	
Impetigo	4	
Pediculi capitis	3	
Pediculi vestimentorum	6	
Pityriasis rosea	2	
Pruritus senilis	3	
Psoriasis	1	
Scabies	2	
Scrofulosis	3	
Seborrhea	2	
Stomatitis mercurialis	1	
Syphilis :		
Chancre of lip	2	
Chancre of cheek	1	
Syphilis palmaris	1	
Tertiary syphilis	4	
Secondary syphilis	13	21
Tinea trichophytina :		
Scalp	4	
Body	2	
Beard	1	7
Tuberculosis lingualis	1	
Tuberculosis of tonsils	1	
Urticaria	1	
		96

Such superiority in the quantity and the quality of the material of Paris over Vienna is indeed surprising, and I hope will serve to convince the future American student of the skin of the advisability of devoting some time at least to Paris, for at present he seems little inclined to do so. But to return to the Vienna out-patient clinic. There is no regular system adopted there. A house-patient to be cauterized for lupus comes in for treatment between two out-patients, and while he is screaming under the hot platinum, the new-comers are listening in awe to his cries.

Then several out-patients are brought in, and these are followed again by house-patients whose warts or lupus are to be scraped out or burned. Such is the method, if method it can be called, pursued in Kaposi's out-patient department; and so it is that the time from nine until half-past ten is consumed, and at the end the student finds that he has seen but very few rare cases among the many examples of scabies and of eczema.

On Saturdays, Kaposi allows the students to make the visit with him, and here at last the foreigner finds a reason for the fame of Vienna. In the one hundred beds lie many good cases—many rare ones to study, and many commoner ones upon which the results of Vienna therapy can be watched from week to week. The celebrated perpetual bath of Hebra can also be seen, and it surely is an extremely valuable palliation, even in the cases where an absolute cure can never be accomplished. Frightful cases of decubitus and of burns form the principal cases which fill the water-beds, while very often cancer in its last stages adds to the horrors of this living mortuary. I think I learned more of the therapeutics of the skin in Vienna than elsewhere, and some of Kaposi's methods were magnificently successful. I only wish that less cruelty were practised in his department. Sex and age mean nothing to his assistants, and cannot save the unfortunate victims of lupus from frequent, prolonged and deep Paquelinization with absolutely no anesthesia.

Every city has some one especially good cure for one or more diseases, but I think Vienna and Paris stand forth most conspicuously in this respect. The emplastrum saponatum salicylicum of Professor Pick of Prague accomplishes wonders in the cure of the old eczemas at Vienna, while the prolonged local or general baths with frequent use of the nitrate-of-silver stick for the exuberant granulations serve the same purpose for the burns; and I shall never forget the result of Kaposi's modification of Wilkinson's ointment (followed by β naphthol and later by fatty inunction) upon a well-marked case of generalized ichthyosis. These are some of the most successful cures which recur to my mind now, and which emphasize Vienna in connection with the amelioration of these diseases.

In addition to the great public courses of Kaposi and Neumann, there are the private courses, which in other branches of medicine in Vienna are so deservedly popular and instructive; but, alas, in skin these courses cannot be turned to such advantage, save that given by Dr. Rille, the first assistant of Neumann. Of Rille's course I cannot say too much in praise. He appears to be the most progressive dermatologist in Vienna, but even he is over adherent in some instances to the doctrines of the great Hebra. His course, like the others, covers twenty hours usually, and is generally attended by fifteen or twenty Americans and English, who thus can see the patients or material in the closest proximity, and who can hear lectures and ask questions upon the subjects which are of greatest interest to them. Rille presents about fifteen cases each day, and speaks of each one carefully and scientifically, but neglects the therapeutic side. The patients are the selected ones from Neumann's one hundred beds, and, although mostly venereal, are interspersed with many purely dermatological ones. The women's wards are peopled, as a rule, by "*puel-læ publicæ*," who are practically prisoners until cured, and the gynecological table there forms one of the best places for the study of venereal sores in women that I have ever seen — in fact, I know of but one other in Europe which is superior, and that is Professor Pick's in Prague.

And now, before leaving the subject of Vienna, I must not fail to speak of the pathological side of dermatology. On my arrival, I asked Kaposi whither I should turn to find a good master in this branch of my work. Kaposi kindly gave me a card to Professor Paltauf, who, with his assistant Riehl, has done the best microscopical work in Vienna in recent years. I went to Paltauf's laboratory several times unsuccessfully, and finally spoke to a stranger who had been in Paltauf's laboratory for several months, and he advised me to go elsewhere if I was seeking instruction, for Paltauf seldom came, and had but a few moments to give to students. I then found a place in Dr. Albrecht's laboratory, where I remained for six months, and where I worked for five or six hours each day. Here I received several new specimens every evening which I hardened, cut, stained and mounted in their turn, and finally showed

to Albrecht, who would tell me all he could about them. Unfortunately he had never done any special work on the skin, and so could not give me much minute knowledge, but he provided me with a good deal of material, and the technique and study of these specimens occupied the time until I was ready to leave. Albrecht is a delightful, quick and bright man, and one who knows general pathology wonderfully well for his age. From what I learned of laboratories in Vienna, no other is better for one who is hunting for dermatological material in combination with instruction.

When one turns to bacteriological work in Vienna one must be again disappointed. The course given is very primitive compared with its prototype of the Pasteur Institute. The lectures and instruction are very brief, the apparatus almost niggardly, the demonstrations feeble, and the course, as a whole, very expensive considering what one receives in return.

With the advent of May I left Vienna with mingled feelings of regret and gladness. From Kaposi's lectures and wards and from Albrecht's laboratory and Neumann's wards, I had undoubtedly absorbed more good than I was willing to admit, and yet I was sorry that my last two months were spent in Vienna, for subsequent experience verified only too plainly how much better I could have been employed elsewhere.

PRAGUE.

THE general hospital of Prague is an old building, which, like so many of its kind in Europe, originally served as a convent. Professor Pick received me most cordially and hospitably, and introduced me to his assistants. Every kindness was shown me, and I found that I had an embarrassment of opportunities before me.

Every morning at half-past six, Professor Pick gives his lectures on skin and venereal diseases. At nine o'clock there is the out-patient clinic ("ambulatorium") held by Dr. Waelsch, one of Pick's first assistants. At nine o'clock there is also the visit in the wards by Pick himself, and lastly there are the dermatological operations. But now I must speak of Prague more in detail, for in my opinion it is one of the few cities in Europe, where one can study dermatology to advantage in all its branches.

The out-patient service is a very large one, and from five to seven thousand new cases are seen yearly, while the constant returning of old ones increases this large clinic enormously. As a rule, Dr. Waelsch sees all the cases save those which he considers of great interest or difficulty, and these patients are requested to wait for Pick, who looks in from time to time during the morning. The cases are often extremely instructive and interesting — in truth I know of but one out-patient clinic in Europe which can surpass this Bohemian one of Professor Pick, and that is, of course, the St. Louis in Paris. The American often loses a great deal by not understanding the Bohemian language, for almost one-half of the patients are ignorant of German. The official language of the hospital is, however, German, and all the physicians and assistants prefer to speak it. To my mind there is one thing which detracts from the interest of the clinic at Prague, namely, the monotonous series of cases of gonorrhea, which follow one after another and delay the true dermatological and syphilitic patients. The daily attendance is about forty-five and they are soon cared for by the large corps of dressers. In Prague the patient's lesions are often dressed before he leaves the hospital, and I am sure that this is a great factor in the rapid cures which I saw there. I refer chiefly to the cases of old eczemas which disappeared almost miraculously under Professor Pick's plaster of five-per-cent. or ten-per-cent. salicylated soap plaster.

The most striking feature of this clinic is the important rôle which surgery plays. Sunday is the principal operating-day, but on almost any morning the visitor can find Professor Pick, knife or curette in hand, obliterating all traces of lupus from a patient's face or cutting away an epithelioma. As to lupus, of course the cure by the knife is very rapid, but a large scar remains, and several times I saw nodules starting up again in an old cicatrix of a lupus treated by this radical method. Scarification is seldom employed here over large areas, owing to the fear of a subsequent generalized miliary tuberculosis. Naturally, it was a great advantage to have seen these surgical treatments; but where ether and several assistants are employed, it seems as though dermatology were trespassing upon the domain of surgery.

The wards in Prague are divided into four parts — the men's dermatological and venereal, and the women's dermatological and venereal. The divisions are all extremely instructive on account of the large number of beds, and also because the student can see so many rare diseases so closely associated. I think the diseases of the house-patients there are more unusual than those in Vienna even, and surely that is saying a great deal in praise of Prague. Professor Pick visits the men and women on alternate days. He goes to the bed-ridden, whereas those who are able to walk come before him. My sensations at the first visit with him are still very vivid. Save in Paris, I have nowhere seen so many rare diseases assembled in one hospital. The women's venereal ward is unsurpassed in the world, so far as I have seen it. One might say almost that cases were gathered there by the hundred of hard and soft chancres, gonorrhea and adenitis of all locations. Certainly I have never seen such an array of feminine ulcers as mounted the examining table in Prague that morning. Another feature of the Prague clinic is the horrible extent of lupus and scrofuloderma. Of the former I have never seen so large a proportion in any city, and of the latter I have never seen such deep-seated, dreadful ravages. Some of the children were absolutely riddled by the tubercular foci.

Toward the end of my visit I went to see Professor Pick in his private room at the hospital. He showed me some beautifully mounted bacteriological preparations, many pieces of abnormal skin in alcohol, and some new fixed cultures of ring-worm, and then told me of the advantages offered by the bacteriological and chemical laboratories of Prague, and finally pointed to an empty place with a microscope before it. "There," said he, "is your place; come and work here for two years; I am sure you will want for nothing." Professor Pick told me that he liked to have strangers come to him, and that he gave them a place in his laboratory, which they could keep so long as he considered them an advantage to his clinic. I only regret that I had not known of such an opportunity. I felt then as I do now — if only I could have given my last three months of Vienna to Prague and Breslau. I can't do better than to advise everybody who is interested in

skin diseases to spend some time in Prague, for there he will find lectures, clinics, visits, operations and microscopic work all at their best, and under the direction of a professor and his assistants who are among the best in Europe and are extremely hospitable to the stranger.

BRESLAU.

BRESLAU, the capital of Silesia, deserves in every way a much longer visit than I made there. After all the kindness which I received in Europe, it would be difficult to say that still more was shown me in Breslau than elsewhere, but nothing could exceed the hospitality of Professor Neisser.

The hospital in Breslau is only a few years old, and the neatness and cleanness of everything under the charge of Professor Neisser was impressed upon me all the more, coming as I did from the unhygienic old convent which now serves as the hospital of Prague. My first morning in Breslau was one of my pleasantest in Europe. Professor Neisser called for me in his carriage, and we drove out of town to the hospital which he has been so instrumental in having built. Everything is a model in its way, and everything is assembled under one roof. We first entered his private room, and from there began an inspection of the building, going directly into the library, where all the important treatises upon dermatology, old and new, are to be seen on the shelves, and all the magazines are to be found on the tables. The walls of the library and the adjoining lecture-room are extremely interesting on account of the photographs of men living and dead who have advanced the science of dermatology. The lecture-room is extremely well-lighted and very practical for teaching the skin. A platform stands in the middle of the room and on each side are benches for the students. I think that this allows more students a nearer view than an amphitheatre does. On the walls were small bottles filled with a great variety of the ointments, pastes, powders, washes, etc., which figure in the dermatological therapy of to-day. This collection was to me unique—I mean a purely dermatological one—and I merely mention it to show how thoroughly Professor Neisser has installed himself in his new hospital.

In the adjoining room is stored a wonderful collection of water-colors, large photographs, stereoscopic pictures and colored plates arranged on shelves in alphabetical order, so that one can find the object of one's search in a few moments. The photographs are the best I have ever seen, and are large, very clear and well-lighted, and the common and rare diseases almost all appear in the list. Before a window in the corridor stands a large stereoscope in which one can see to great advantage the wonderful effect of stereoscopy as applied to dermatological photographs. The effect is so magical that I felt as though I were being deceived, and that I were looking at a living being rather than at a picture. This method of demonstrating a skin disease to the student is to my mind second only to the models of Baretta of Paris, and Professor Neisser has so many rare diseases illustrated in his collection, that I felt as though I were attending some imaginary clinic of only rare and puzzling dermatoses.

The laboratories were the next rooms which occupied our attention. There are three large, airy and light rooms with great windows. The desks are covered with white porcelain and allow ample space for each worker. Everything was so scrupulously clean, and my guide and his assistants so cordial and kind, that I regretted more than ever the very long visit I made in Vienna. The students have material given them to investigate, and Professor Neisser is extremely generous with his time and advice, so that the student who has been seeking in all Europe a city where he can procure material and receive instruction from one of the best of modern dermatological pathologists—such a man, I say, can surely feel that in Breslau he has at last found his goal, and that in the delightful laboratories under the charge of Professor Neisser he can well afford to remain for months.

A large series of rooms are devoted to the out-patient department. They are all refreshingly clean and well ventilated, and comprise rooms for waiting, for interviewing, for examining on the table, for operating and for dressing. Every chamber, every instrument case, every article of furniture bore the same mark of neatness and cleanliness which had been so conspicuous in the rooms which I had previously seen. The out-patient clinic is large,

though not so vast as the Parisian one. I did not have much opportunity to note the variety of cases for myself, but I can promise that from the house-patients and from the photographs and stereoscopic pictures I have before alluded to there must be an unusual number of wonderful cases observed every year. Breslau is so situated geographically that it draws upon a vast territory for its supply of patients, who flock to this capital of Silesia in great and interesting numbers.

It was not until the following day that Professor Neisser took me through his wards. At the time of my visit I saw no extremely unusual cases, and my host apologized for the paucity of his curiosities, which every man takes great pride in showing to the foreign visitor. But, for my part, the instructive cases of lupus, lupus erythematosus, leprosy, epithelioma, psoriasis, etc., well compensated for the lack of more uncommon types. The wards were extremely clean and airy, and the walls were covered with beautiful engravings of ancient Greece and Rome. So at last I had completed the tour of the hospital, the interior of which seemed to me to be the cleanest and most attractive of any I had seen in Europe.

The day before I left Breslau was one which I shall long remember. Dr. Jadassohn — whom I had previously met at Professor Neisser's house — drove me to the large, old and attractive hospital of the "All-holy Trinity," with its quaint old buildings, and its beautiful old garden overlooking the river Oder and filled with superb old elms and horse-chestnuts. I had expected on entering the old building to find it exhibiting the usual signs of old age, but the same idea of health and cleanliness which actuated the authorities in Professor Neisser's hospital was equally patent here, and every bed, every floor, every wall of this large hospital was as fresh and hygienic and attractive as if it had been built the previous day.

The hospital is a general one in character, but Dr. Jadassohn has at least one hundred beds for skin and venereal diseases and a large out-patient department under his control. Overlooking the river is a laboratory where he and his assistants can work to great advantage. The visit was naturally a long and very interesting one. Dr. Jadassohn told me that most of the unusual cases went to

Professor Neisser's hospital, but with the case of universal scleroderma and the many interesting examples of syphilis and other diseases, it seemed to me that he was a little too modest. After the visit, I waited in the laboratory while Dr. Jadassohn and one of his assistants showed me some rare and interesting microscopic slides, and then we drove out to Professor Neisser's clinic to see a few cases which he, with his great kindness, had requested to present themselves on that day for my especial benefit. They were examples which once in a while stagger the expert in dermatology — no matter how old he is, how much he has seen at home or abroad, or how much he has read and studied; even Professor Neisser could give me no diagnosis. To see several such anomalies in so short a space of time was bewildering. It was a proof to me of the idea which I had received from the photographs, that Professor Neisser has indeed a wonderful source from which he can draw his material. As a rule, it is country people who are the most atypical in their dermatoses, and so the vast province of Silesia with its one central capital proves to be no exception to the rule.

This reception of dermatological enigmas was the last scientific event of my most instructive and happy visit in Breslau, and I think I left no city in Europe so sorrowfully and regretfully as I did this one with its many hospitable people and its many-sided attractions. Surely no future student of dermatology should fail to allow Breslau a fair portion of his time in Europe; my inability to do so was one of the greatest errors I could have committed.

BERLIN.

Berlin is a curious city dermatologically, for none of the great hospitals have any clinics for the treatment of the skin. This appears to make the German capital unique among all other large cities, but still I think my assertion is correct. My purpose in visiting Berlin was to see the private clinic of Dr. Lassar, whose name is the most prominent in the dermatology of Berlin of to-day.

Dr. Lassar was still another instance of the hospitality and cordiality of foreign physicians. After a little conversation, we started upon our tour of inspection. Dr. Lassar's so-called clinic is in reality a hospital very richly

equipped with all that is necessary for the reception and treatment and study of skin diseases. We first visited the waiting-room, dressing-rooms and office for private patients, which are in the same building, but isolated completely and guarded by a very zealous custodian. From this department, we went to that part of the house which is devoted to the poor, and there looked in upon the bathing-rooms, where medicated baths of all description were in progress. The rooms for the out-patients are very well arranged, and trained nurses are in daily attendance. Adjoining them is a large, well-lighted room devoted to the lectures which Dr. Lassar gives daily to a large body of students, who appeared to have more knowledge of cutaneous diseases than any similar class I have ever seen. The talks are clinical and rather informal, and Dr. Lassar is constantly calling upon some member of the class to make a diagnosis or to describe to the others the lesions which he sees upon a given skin. The instruction is supplemented by many good wax models. Continuing our inspection, we entered a large room filled to overflowing with wax models of all sizes — in fact, several entire figures were represented in wax, and very cleverly, too. Off of this little museum is a small workshop where the numerous casts are being manufactured constantly by a man who works entirely for Dr. Lassar and who daily adds to the collection of models and photographs in this small hospital. On the upper stories are bedrooms and an attractive operating-room, and over all we found the laboratories. So one may see how complete this little establishment is; and during my week with my kind host I saw very many instructive cases and heard several good lectures.

As I said above, the dermatology of Berlin is governed almost entirely by private individuals. There are several other clinics, but my time was so short that I unfortunately was obliged to leave them without even a passing glimpse. A friend spoke very well of Dr. Joseph's, but personally I did not visit it.

With the termination of my seven days in Berlin my wanderings in clinics unknown to me were finished and my home journey took me again to my ideal St. Louis in Paris and finally to London. It has been a long story for my readers, I fear; but I have tried to describe all I saw

as minutely and carefully as possible, so that any one desirous of devoting some time to the study of dermatology in Europe could learn what advantages and what disadvantages are to be encountered in the various cities which I was fortunate enough to visit. I hope I have been fair and just in my estimate and criticism of the men whom I met and their methods. If at times I have said things uncomplimentary, it has been solely for the possible advantage of future young men who may study in Europe. I trust I have been impartial and just.

Before closing this sketch of my studies, I want to formulate a plan of work which I would have followed if I had known before all that experience has taught me of European dermatologists and their clinics and laboratories. I should give the following as my advice, considering the time to be enjoyed as two years and three months. I mention the cities in the order and the time of the year most advantageous from my observations, and it will be noticed that the names of four cities appear which I have not described, because opportunity for visiting them was not practicable for me. Bergen I should go to in order to see more leprosy than could be found even in Trondjhem. Buda Pesth would be very valuable for microscopic work under Török. Hamburg would allow one a chance to consider the unique ideas of Unna and to work in his laboratory; and Lille would afford an opportunity for study under Leloir, whose work with the microscope has made his name so prominent:

1. Paris	Oct. 1 to Aug. 1	Ten months
2. Christiania } Bergen } Trondjhem }	 Aug. 1 to Aug. 10	Ten days
3. Buda Pesth	Aug. 10 to Oct. 10	Two months
4. Vienna	Oct. 10 to Feb. 10	Four months
5. Prague	Feb. 10 to May 10	Three months
6. Breslau	May 10 to Aug. 10	Three months
7. Berlin	Aug. 10 to Aug. 17	One week
8. Hamburg	Aug. 17 to Sept. 17	One month
9. Bonn	Sept. 17 to Sept. 30	Two weeks
10. London	Sept. 30 to Oct. 30	One month
11. Lille	Oct. 30 to Nov. 30	One month
12. Paris	Nov. 30 to Dec. 7	One week

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